Archaeological sites in Tamil Nadu

*432. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Archaeological survey of India had located the habitational site of the iron age people who were buried in big urns at Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ASI is conducting many more excavations in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has undertaken the excavation at Adichanallur, District Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu during the seasons 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. The remains of the iron age habitational site have been noticed during the 2004-05 seasons' excavation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Representation of Government Cases

*433. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the prompt and effective representation of the Central Government cases before the High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) the existing number of vacancies of Law Officers and standing counsels in the courts and the steps taken to fill them; and

(c) whether there is any agency to monitor performance of the Law Officers and standing counsels of the Central Government and if so, how frequently their performances are assessed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) In the cases before Supreme Court of India, the representation on behalf of

Central Government is made by Attorney General for India, Solicitor General of India and 6 Additional Solicitors General of India. There is a panel of advocates consisting of 230 advocates who are also engaged for conducting cases before Supreme Court. In the High Court of Bombay, High Court of Madras and High Court of Calcutta, there is one Additional Solicitor General of India each who are assisted by the Assistant Solicitor General of India, Central Government Counsel and Panel Counsel. In other High Courts, Assistant Solicitor General of India, Central Government Counsel and Senior Panel Counsel conduct the Government litigation. In appropriate cases, on the request of concerned Departments private advocates, who are not on the panel, are also engaged.

(b) One post of Additional Solicitor General of India in the High Court of Calcutta is vacant and is likely to be filled up soon. In other High Courts, there are sufficient numbers of counsel to conduct the Government litigation.

(c) The Government has set up a Cell for monitoring the functioning of Government Lawyers. The Cell consists of an Additional Secretary and two Joint Secretary and Legal Advisers. When a complaint is received against a counsel, the Cell examines the complaint and takes appropriate action against a counsel. The status of complaints received against Government Counsel during the year 2004-05 is as under—

1)	Total No. of complaints received against the Government Counsel	— 41
2)	Found guilty and action taken/terminated	— 02
3)	Not found guilty	— 22
4)	Further information/comments from complainants Awaited	— 01
5)	Comments awaited from the Counsel	— 04
6)	Warning/Directions given	— 04
7)	Reminders issued	— 04
8)	Action not taken since the term of Counsel had expired/ resigned	— 04